

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
EASTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON

STEPHANIE MATTHIESEN,

Plaintiff,

v.

AUTOZONERS, LLC,

Defendant.

CASE NO.: 2:15-CV-0080-TOR

PROTECTIVE ORDER

BEFORE THE COURT is the parties' Stipulated Motion for Entry of a Protective Order (ECF No. 17). The motion was submitted for consideration without oral argument. The Court has reviewed the motion and the file therein and is fully informed. Pursuant to the parties' agreement and for good cause shown, the motion is granted and the following protective order entered in this matter:

1. This Order shall be applicable to and govern all depositions, documents, information, or things produced in response to requests for production of documents, answers to interrogatories, responses to requests for admissions, and all other discovery taken under the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and the Local Rules for the Eastern District of Washington, and other information which the

1 producing party designates as “CONFIDENTIAL,” hereinafter furnished, directly  
2 or indirectly, by or on behalf of any party or any non-party in connection with this  
3 action.

4 2. The following information may be designated as “CONFIDENTIAL”:

5 (i) proprietary business records such as payroll, financial, or other proprietary  
6 business records; or (ii) employment, personnel, health and private information  
7 about plaintiff, defendant, current and former employees of defendant, or third  
8 parties, that are not available from any other source.

9 3. Parties shall designate records as confidential information by labeling  
10 them as “CONFIDENTIAL” prior to production. Deposition or other pretrial or  
11 trial testimony meeting the criteria specified in paragraph 2 above may be  
12 designated “CONFIDENTIAL” by a statement on the record by counsel during  
13 such deposition or other pretrial or trial proceeding that the entire transcript or a  
14 portion thereof shall be designated as “CONFIDENTIAL.” Only those portions or  
15 excerpts of a deposition consisting of confidential material shall be designated as  
16 “CONFIDENTIAL.” Deposition or other pretrial testimony meeting the criteria  
17 specified in paragraph 2 above also may be designated as “CONFIDENTIAL” by  
18 stamping a “CONFIDENTIAL” legend on the transcript of such testimony and  
19 service copies on the other parties within thirty (30) days after the transcript is  
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1 received by the designating party, regardless of whether any confidentiality  
2 designation was made on the record at the time the testimony was given.

3 4. A designation by a party of CONFIDENTIAL information shall be  
4 made in good faith.

5 5. A party shall not be obligated to challenge the propriety of a  
6 CONFIDENTIAL designation at the time made, and failure to do so shall not  
7 preclude subsequent challenge thereto. Failure to challenge the propriety of any  
8 CONFIDENTIAL designation shall not constitute an admission as to the propriety  
9 of that designation.

10 6. Counsel for such parties shall make a good faith effort to confer to  
11 resolve by agreement any differences as to the use or designation of information as  
12 CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION prior to bringing the issue to the Court.

13 7. All documents and testimony designated as CONFIDENTIAL, and all  
14 information derived solely therefrom, if not available in any other source, shall be  
15 used solely for the purpose of preparing and litigating claims in this lawsuit and  
16 shall not be disclosed, published in any medium by any party, or disseminated  
17 except as provided for in Paragraph 8 below. Any use of documents and testimony  
18 designated as CONFIDENTIAL, and all information derived solely therefrom, that  
19 is inconsistent with the Order shall be a breach of its terms.

1           8. Except as may be otherwise agreed by the parties, or ordered by the  
2 Court, disclosure of documents and testimony designated as CONFIDENTIAL,  
3 and all information derived therefrom, shall be limited to:

4           (a) A party, or an employee of a party;

5           (b) Counsel for a party, or an employee of counsel for a party to  
6 whom it is necessary that the information be shown for purposes of  
7 preparing or litigating the Lawsuit, such as any paralegal assistants, or  
8 other support staff assisting counsel in the preparation of the Lawsuit;

9           (c) An expert, consultant, or third party consulted or retained by a  
10 party or such party's counsel to assist in preparing or litigating the  
11 Lawsuit;

12           (d) The Court and any Court staff;

13           (e) A court reporter at deposition, hearing, or trial;

14           (f) A witness, as well as the witness' counsel, if any, in the Lawsuit,  
15 at the deposition of such witness, or during the witness's trial  
16 testimony, or in preparation for their testimony and/or deposition, if  
17 the witness is an author or is copied on the document;

18           (g) A third-party neutral retained by the parties to assist in resolution  
19 of the Lawsuit.  
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1           9. Each person described in Paragraph 8(c) or Paragraph 8(f), to whom the  
2 disclosure of documents and testimony designated as CONFIDENTIAL and all  
3 information derived therefrom is permitted pursuant to this Order, shall be  
4 provided with a copy of this Order, and shall agree in writing to be bound thereby  
5 prior to such disclosure by signing an acknowledgment in the form attached hereto  
6 as Exhibit A, or in any form substantially similar to Exhibit A.

7           10. Nothing in this Order shall preclude any party from using  
8 CONFIDENTIAL information during hearings, court proceedings, and/or motion  
9 practice if the party reasonably believes the CONFIDENTIAL material is  
10 necessary for the hearing, court proceeding, and/or motion practice. In the event  
11 that a party intends to enter any CONFIDENTIAL information of another into  
12 evidence, other than at trial, the disclosing party shall either: (a) provide the other  
13 party's counsel with the best practical notice of its intent to file such  
14 CONFIDENTIAL information and will provide reasonable opportunity for the  
15 other party to obtain an order requiring that such CONFIDENTIAL information be  
16 filed under seal pursuant to any applicable General Rules and/or Local Rules of the  
17 Court; or (b) file a stipulation and proposed order to seal or motion to seal the  
18 CONFIDENTIAL information pursuant to any applicable General Rules and/or  
19 Local Rules of the Court. The stipulation or motion can either be filed before or  
20 concurrent with the document filed under seal. Where reasonably practical, only

1 those portions of documents or pleadings consisting of CONFIDENTIAL  
2 information shall be filed or lodged under seal.

3 11. It shall be a violation of this Order for any party to this case, or his or  
4 her counsel, to disclose CONFIDENTIAL information except as set forth in this  
5 Order. Any summary exhibits derived from CONFIDENTIAL information that is  
6 not available from any other source shall also be governed by the terms of this  
7 Order. Notwithstanding the preceding, nothing in this Order shall in any way limit  
8 or preclude either party from using any of the CONFIDENTIAL information that it  
9 has created or maintained for any of the business purposes for which it was created  
10 or maintained.

11 12. Nothing in this Order shall bar, or otherwise restrict, any attorney in  
12 this matter from rendering advice to his or her client with respect to this litigation  
13 or doing anything reasonably necessary to prosecute or defend this litigation.

14 13. Nothing in this Order shall be construed to prohibit a party from  
15 seeking an order compelling the production of CONFIDENTIAL information.

16 14. Nothing in this Order shall preclude a party from pursuing a protective  
17 order or moving to seal any portion of the Court file at any time if such action is  
18 deemed necessary by either party in either party's sole discretion.

19 15. This Order shall remain in force and effect until further order of this  
20 Court.

1           16.   Insofar as the provisions of this Order restrict the use of  
2 CONFIDENTIAL information, this Order shall continue to be binding after the  
3 conclusion of this litigation.

4           17.   When this action, including entry of judgment or appeal, concludes  
5 and within thirty (30) days after the litigation has been finally terminated, a  
6 producing party may request the return or destruction of all CONFIDENTIAL  
7 material produced in this litigation, except those filed with the Court or agreed by  
8 the parties to be retained for purposes of effectuating any judgment or any  
9 documents that counsel for either party chooses to maintain as part of the client file  
10 for up to six years as required by the Rules of Professional Conduct. After the  
11 termination of this action, this Order shall continue to be binding upon the parties  
12 hereto, and all persons to whom CONFIDENTIAL material has been disclosed or  
13 communicated.


14           18.   Any modification of this Order must be approved and signed by the  
15 Court. Nothing in this Order shall prohibit any party from seeking to modify any  
16 provision of this Order upon good cause shown. The Court may modify this Order  
17 on its own motion after notice to the parties and an opportunity to be heard.

18           19.   This Order is without prejudice to any party's right to demand or  
19 oppose discovery on any grounds permitted by the Federal Rules of Civil  
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1 Procedure and is without prejudice to any other party's right to contest any such  
2 assertions.

3 Dated October 28, 2015.



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6 THOMAS O. RICE  
7 United States District Judge  
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**EXHIBIT A TO STIPULATED PROTECTIVE ORDER**

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

The undersigned, \_\_\_\_\_, in connection with the case of *Matthiesen v. Autozoners, LLC*, Case No. 2:15-CV-0080-TOR (United States District Court, Eastern District of Washington), hereby acknowledges that s/he received a copy of the Order in that action, has read the Order, understands it, and agrees to be bound by all the provisions thereof.

DATED this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Nature of involvement in case

\_\_\_\_\_  
Company name and address

\_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone number